Richard Cook
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Dear FCC,

  I am partial to the petition for discontinuing the Morse code requirements
and that is due to the point of views of other filed comments. I have been a
ham operator since 1999 and have enjoyed it very much and I am currently
learning Morse code. I feel that the FCC should opt to keep the Morse
requirement, but here are some suggestions to benefit the individuals who
would rather have the Morse requirement discontinued.

1) Keep the Morse requirement testing for extra license only.
2) Have a six-month code free testing grace period. This would give
   individuals the opportunity to get a ham license above technician and
   not have to deal with Morse code testing, which in turn increases the
   number of ham operators.

  My main concern in why the Morse requirement should be kept is because if
it was dropped it would give free reign for the individuals that would see it as
a broadening of there "CB" usage and unregulated habits and abuse the ham
bands (and yes there are currently ham operators that do abuse the bands).
To me Morse code is a vital mode of communication even though not everyone
agrees with that, but they believe that this organization should move up in
the modern times of communications and discontinue Morse code testing all
together. All in all ham radio is extremely vital to our country and it is up to
the FCC to take heed and make a decision for this petition, and also to take
in concern all the comments sent to them. Ideally I would like to see the FCC
benefit both sides as much as possible, if they are able too.

Respectfully
R. Cook